

especially this time of year. So come up there and stop in and see us.

Cindy will be leaving for the private sector. She will remain in this area, and we hope we see her around here occasionally.

So from the bottom of my heart, thank you to all of you. Congratulations. God bless you in your future endeavors and employment.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield.

Mr. EHLERS. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

I did not rise to defend the Washington metropolitan area as a place to live, notwithstanding his observations. But I did rise to say thank you on behalf of all of us, not on a partisan sense, although I am on this side of the aisle, and there are others on the other side of the aisle, but to, again, remind ourselves how critically important to the operations of the people's House are those who never rise and speak. They also serve who stand and record, the poet might have said.

To Anne and Cindy and Vicky, we appreciate very much what you have done. You have at times been asked to spend long, long, long hours. You have fought fatigue; and I am sure, although you do not have to admit this, fought boredom as well in the operations that you have been responsible for.

You make it possible for the American public, even if they cannot see us on C-SPAN, even if they cannot be in the gallery, even if years later they are trying to find out what happened on the floor of the House, their House, doing their business, you make it possible for them to find out. You do so with incredible accuracy and efficiency. We thank you for that, and we acknowledge how critically important you are to the operations of this House.

I am not surprised that one of you is going into the private sector. Maybe both of you are going into the private sector, I am not sure, our two reporters, or Anne returning to North Carolina to be closer to her family, because there are, in my opinion, no more talented, no more highly motivated, no more productive people that could be hired by the private sector than those who work on this Hill and certainly, all those who work at the desk and who record our debates.

It is a hallmark of American democracy that we want to be open to the public. We want to have a historic and accurate record of proceedings. You have enabled us to continue to do that.

We thank you. We wish you God-speed. We hope that you take with you very positive feelings about this House, that you know firsthand that, although there are fights and disagreements, and sometimes we are much smaller than we ought to be, that, at bottom, almost everybody, indeed everybody in this House, cares about their country and cares about their constituents. You have had the opportunity to see that

firsthand. As I tell the pages, I hope you will tell that story wide and far.

We thank you, and we wish you the best of everything in the days ahead. Thank you for yielding.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EHLERS. I am happy to yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to add my best wishes to Anne Holcombe as she leaves and also say farewell to Cindy and Vicky for the work that they have done.

Regarding Anne, I was sitting here thinking of the old Irish tune that has the melody of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." A phrase in there is "Johnny, we hardly got to know you." It just seems like you came last week, and time flies so fast, and we hardly got to know you.

You have done so well. You have been very friendly. You have been very particularly kind to me in making sure the podium is at the right height. Your professionalism, your competency is beyond match. So we thank you for your efforts, your hard work. We wish you the very best in your next chapter of life, and do not forget us. God bless.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to thank all three of the speakers, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) for their eloquent comments.

Frankly, they stole my speech, and there is not much I can add to it other than to say, on behalf of all of those who use this Chamber and rely on you as well as the broader American public who sees your work constantly on the screen of their computer or in the journal, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I want to thank all of you for your hard service here. I wish you well. God bless you wherever you go.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES AND COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 184), and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 184

Resolved, That the following Member be and is hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

Armed Services: Mr. Forbes.

Science: Mr. Forbes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2001 TO FILE REPORTS ON H.R. 2215, 21ST CENTURY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, AND H.R. 2137, CRIMINAL LAW TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2001

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary have until midnight on Friday, July 6 to file the reports to accompany H.R. 2215 and H.R. 2137.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER, THE MAJORITY LEADER, AND THE MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR THE HOUSE NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Tuesday, July 10, 2001, the Speaker, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2001

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, July 11, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1613

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name from H.R. 1613.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE TOM DAVIS TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH JULY 10, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker: